

Message Text

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APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY

S/S:DMACK

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 147832

NODIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: PFOR, JO

SUBJECT: MESSAGE TO KING FROM SECRETARY

1: PLEASE PASS FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM SECRETARY TO KING,
INFORM PRIME MINISTER RIFAI.

QUOTE: YOUR MAJESTY:

WE HAVE JUST COMPLETED WHAT WE CONSIDER TO BE A USEFUL
ROUND OF TALKS WITH DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER KHADDAM OF SYRIA.
AS YOU KNOW, OUR CONSULTATIONS WITH RESPECT TO THE DIPLO-
MACY IN THE CURRENT PHASE BEGAN WITH OUR DISCUSSIONS WITH
YOU AND INCLUDED THE TALKS IN SALZBURG WITH PRESIDENT
SADAT AND PRIME MINISTER RABIN HERE IN WASHINGTON.

NO NEW DRAMATIC DEVELOPMENT OCCURRED AS A RESULT OF OUR
DISCUSSIONS WITH PRIME MINISTER KHADDAM. THIS WAS NOT THE
PRINCIPAL PURPOSE OF THE DISCUSSIONS. AS IN OUR OTHER
CONSULTATIONS, WE FOCUSED ON THE TWO PRINCIPAL DIPLOMATIC
ALTERNATIVES WHICH ARE TO THE FORE AT PRESENT: (A)
PURSUING THE STEP-BY-STEP APPROACH THROUGH A SECOND-STAGE
INTERIM EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI AGREEMENT FOLLOWED BY FURTHER
EFFORTS IN THE SYRIAN FRONT AND (B) MOVING TO A RENEWED

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GENEVA CONFERENCE AT AN APPROPRIATE TIME IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

FROM OUR OWN POINT OF VIEW, I MADE CLEAR TO MINISTER KHADDAM THAT WE ARE NOT COMMITTED TO ANY PARTICULAR COURSE OF ACTION BUT RATHER WE ARE COMMITTED TO PROGRESS AND ARE SEEKING THE VIEWS OF EACH OF THE NEGOTIATING PARTIES ON HOW BEST TO PROCEED. I ASSURED HIM THAT WE CONTINUE TO RECOGNIZE THE NEED TO MAKE PROGRESS ON ALL FRONTS. WE DO NOT YET KNOW WHETHER IT WILL PROVE POSSIBLE TO PROCEED TOWARDS AN EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI AGREEMENT IN VIEW OF A NUMBER OF UNCERTAINTIES WHICH REMAIN.

I SHALL NOT TRY TO DETAIL OR CHARACTERIZE THE POSITION OF THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT, WHICH I AM SURE IS WELL KNOWN TO YOU. I BELIEVE THE TALKS WERE USEFUL IN OFFERING THE OPPORTUNITY FOR A CURRENT EXCHANGE ON WHERE MATTERS STAND AND IN STRENGTHENING MUTUAL CONFIDENCE. I SOUGHT TO ASSURE THE SYRIAN MINISTER THAT THE U.S. WILL CONTINUE TO MAKE A DETERMINED EFFORT TO AVOID STALE-MATE AND STAGNATION AND THAT WE SHALL REMAIN FULLY INVOLVED IN ASSISTING ALL RPT ALL OF THE PARTIES AS LONG AS IT IS THEIR DESIRE.

WARMEST REGARDS, HENRY A. KISSINGER

END QUOTE. INGERSOLL

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